

## MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

### August 2, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Place: MDOT 1<sup>st</sup> floor auditorium

#### **Commission Members Present:**

MS Dept of Public Safety	George Phillips
MS Department of Corrections	Chris Epps
MS Department of Information Technology Services	David Litchliter
MS Department of Transportation	Willie Huff
MS Department of Environmental Quality	Keith Harkins
MS Department of Homeland Security	Jay Ledbetter
MS Supervisors Association	Joel Yelverton
MS Department of Health	Ed Thompson
MS Fire Chiefs' Association	Tom Lariviere
Safe City Initiative	Mark McCreery

#### **Advisory Members Present:**

Senator Jack Gordon	Representative Clayton Smith
Senator Tom King	Representative Tyrone Ellis
Senator Hob Bryan	

Chairman George Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Chris Epps made the motion, and it was seconded by Jay Ledbetter. The motion passed with none opposed.

Joel Yelverton reported for the rules committee. There were two requests which had been approved by the committee. Only one needed approval from the Commission. Marine Resources requested new radio equipment, which would cost \$394,000. This new equipment would allow them to communicate with other agencies when they assist them. The equipment to be purchased consists of Motorola radios and would be interoperable with the state system. There was a discussion about how many radios would be purchased and who would be using them. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment. It was seconded by Chris Epps and passed with none opposed.

Willie Huff had no report for the interoperability committee.

Gary Ladd was not present to report for the governance committee.

Bill Buffington gave an update on the project. Site procurement negotiations are taking place, and the rapid deployment is well underway. The Motorola team is finishing the deployable units for use at the Southern Governors' Association Conference in Biloxi. Mr. Buffington stated that they were working setting up offices at the MDOT building on Woodrow Wilson. He will be putting together advisory groups for the MSWIN project before the next meeting. Mr. Buffington introduced WCC staff members Tamra Grimes, Johnny Bailey, and Ed Davis.

In other business, David Litchliter reported that there was an invoice from Butler Snow in the amount of \$30,010 for June services. There were also expenses in the amount of \$19,879 to establish the WCC offices. Mr. Litchliter stated that he has itemized billing if anyone is interested in seeing it. Willie Huff made a motion to pay Butler Snow and the expenses for the new offices. It was seconded by Chris Epps and passed with none opposed.

Mr. Litchliter explained that the WCC staff would have recurring expenditures each month. There was a discussion the Commission's preference on the reporting and payment of these recurring bills. Mr. Litchliter stated that by law the Commission must approve all expenditures. Chairman Phillips asked the legislators for their input on the matter. Joel Yelverton made a motion for ITS to pay the bills and provide a summary report of expenses to the Commission and Advisory members each month. Chris Epps seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed.

Joel Yelverton questioned how the Commerce money would be spent. Chairman Phillips stated that he would entertain discussion on that matter at the appropriate time.

David Litchliter stated that the budget had been sent to the Legislative Budget Office. He met with Mike Lucious about issuance of the authorized bonds. They have said that they will provide short term financing up to \$20 million. DFA will allow the WCC to draw down on that money to pay bills. Chairman Phillips stated that outside funding is being sought. Willie Huff questioned how the interest would be charged on short term borrowing. Senator Jack Gordon explained that it would depend on where the money comes from.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

The next meeting will be September 6, 2007.